

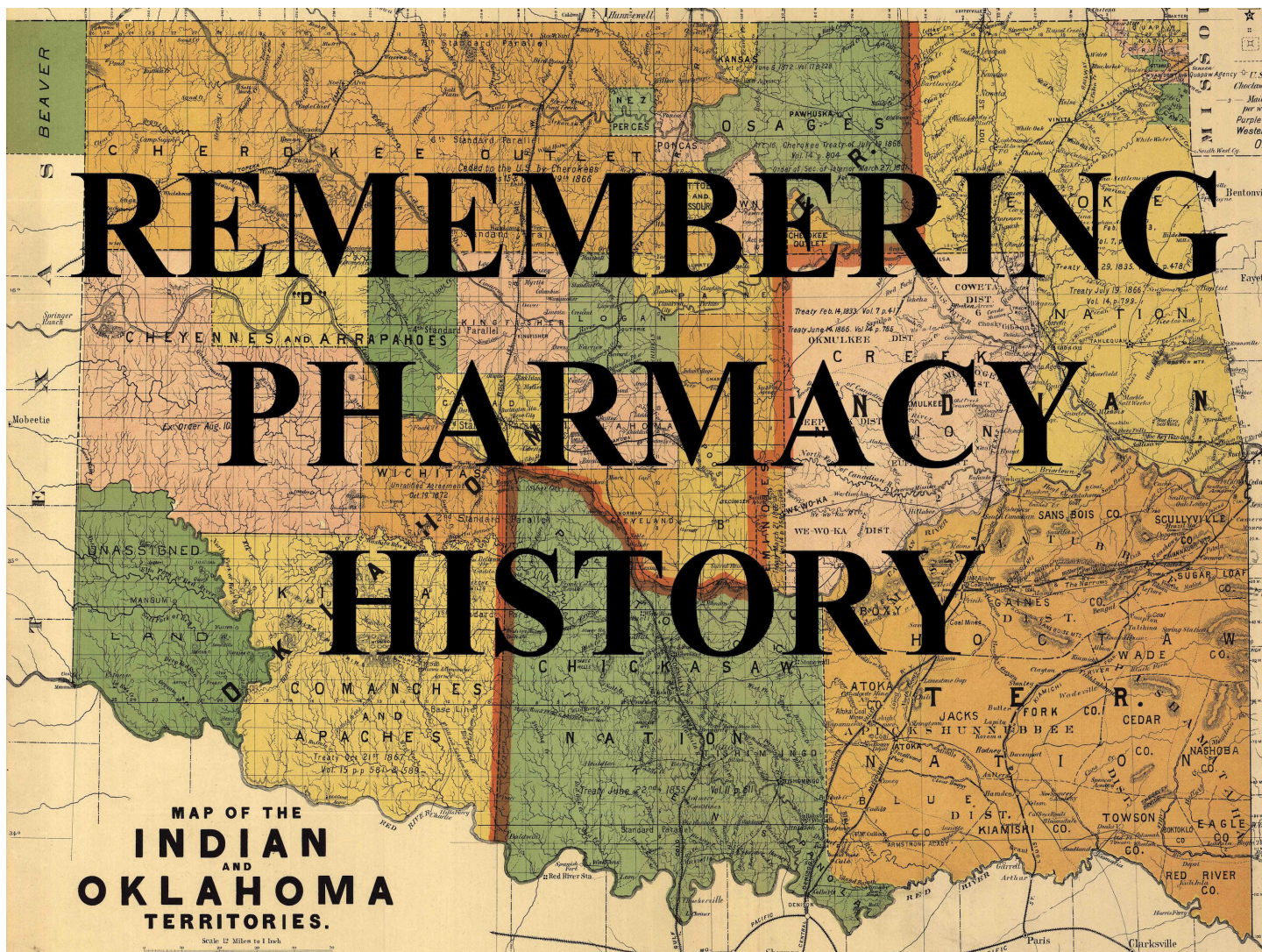
# OKPharmacy E-Newsletter

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## PHARMACISTS OF THE CHEROKEE AND CREEK NATIONS

Lee A. Barry, John Calhoun Berd, James Polk Carter, Austin  
Worcester Foreman II, and James Sterling McAllister



*Cover Logo based on an 1892  
map of Indian and Oklahoma  
Territories in the United States  
Library of Congress.*



## PHARMACISTS OF THE CHEROKEE AND CREEK NATIONS

**Lee A. Barry, John Calhoun Berd, James Polk Carter, Austin  
Worcester Foreman II, and James Sterling McAllister**

Carl K. Buckner

The University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy

### Lee A. Barry

Lee was born in Illinois in 1868. His father died soon after he was born and his mother, Elizabeth “Lizzie” (Seabolt) Barry, moved from Illinois back to Kentucky to live with her mother Sophia. By 1880, Lizzie was working as a dress maker in her mother’s home on Grey Street in Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky. Lee helped with dress deliveries in the early 1880s and later became interested in pharmacy.



*Lee A. Barry, ca. 1890. From Eelia Henderscheid.*

On September 24, 1884, after Lizzie’s second husband John Martin died, she married Simon Mitchell in Springfield, Greene County, Missouri. This was about the time that Lee began thinking of his future career. Lee’s training in pharmacy came early in life, perhaps in part from practical experiences in drug stores in Springfield. In the mid-1880s, Simon and Lizzie moved to Van Buren, Crawford County, Arkansas, also a potential site for Lee’s pharmacy education.

By 1887, Lee had moved to the Indian Territory and was working in the Frazee & Trott Drug Store in the Cherokee Nation town of Vinita. In the following year, he moved to Muskogee, Creek Nation, Indian Territory, to become manager of the drug store owned by John Oliver Cobb. In Muskogee, Lee was referred to as a “practical druggist,” meaning that he had developed his knowledge of pharmacy through practical experience.

Lee was one of the early drug store proprietors in Muskogee. In mid-1892 Muskogee had three drug stores, all of which were established before the summer of 1888. The drug store which opened in the fall of 1892 as L. A. Barry & Company was the

fourth to be established in the twenty-one year-old town. It was under operation as the Post-Office Book Store by C. M. Smith when Lee, in partnership with William Ross Shackelford, bought the shop and added a stock of drugs.

In the summer of 1894, Lee sold his interest in L. A. Barry & Company to William Owen and the store became known as Owen & Shackelford. After Ross Shackelford retired from the business, it was known as Owen & Company.

In 1897, Lee moved to South McAlester, Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory, to work in the Allen & Austin Drug Store. After leaving Muskogee, he spent at least part of his time with the Mitchells in Van Buren. It seems likely that Simon and Lizzie, along with their daughter Helen, who was born in 1888, moved to the South McAlester

# L. · A. · BARRY · & · CO.

## Prescription Druggists.

AT THE  
POST OFFICE STORE.

**FRESH STOCK**  
**AND ACCURACY**  
**IS OUR MOTTO.**

*Advertisement by Lee Barry, Muskogee, Creek Nation, Indian Territory. From Muskogee Phoenix, September 14, 1893.*

area at about the same time as did Lee.

While Lee continued to work as a pharmacist in South McAlester, he also became an independent coal dealer in the region. He was an active member of South McAlester Lodge Number 6 of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Lee died in South McAlester on December 13, 1903. It was reported that he died from apoplexy resulting from a fall he experienced while unloading a coal wagon. Lee is buried in McAlester's Oak Hill Memorial Park with his



*Lee Barry and his mother Lizzie, ca. 1892. From Eelia Henderscheid.*



mother, Lizzie, who died in 1919. Simon Mitchell, a Union Army veteran of the American Civil War, who died on February 10, 1915, and daughter Helen (Mitchell) Rush are also buried there.

## John Calhoun Berd

John Calhoun Berd was born on March 5, 1869 in Aid, Stoddard County, Missouri. His father, Thomas Burdine Berd had moved there from Kentucky in 1868. Thomas married Celia Jane Miller in 1868 and John was the couple's only child.



*John Calhoun and his wife, Nancy Evaline (Linder) Berd. From Fort Gibson Genealogical Society.*

Thomas moved the family to Piedmont, Wayne County, Missouri, in the 1870s and then to Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, in 1881. John was educated at the Indian University (later called Bacone Indian School), which moved from Tahlequah to Muskogee in 1885. After graduation, John spent time learning about pharmacy by working in drug stores in the area.

On February 8, 1898, John married Nancy Evaline “Eva” Linder in Linder Valley, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory. Eva was a daughter of John Ross and Eliza Keziah (Pennel) Linder. John Linder was a member of the Cherokee Nation. Eva was born to the couple on October 22, 1880, in Manard, Tahlequah District, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory. Her Dawes enrollment number is 29760. John and Eva had three children, Beatrice Josephine, Harold John, and Nancy Evelyn. Harold graduated from The University of Oklahoma School of Pharmacy with a Pharmaceutical Graduate (Ph.G.) in 1928. He was the last student to receive a Ph.G. diploma from the school.

In April of 1898, J. J. Turnham quit his job as prescription clerk at the Fort Gibson drug store owned by Richard Martin Walker. John Berd was hired as his replacement. In July of that year, John's father bought a stock of drugs from Frank B. Mittong, representing the Moffitt-West Wholesale Drug Company in St. Louis, Missouri. John became the pharmacist-in-charge, taking over operation of the business, known as the City Drug Store.

In 1906, after John constructed a new building in Fort Gibson to house his drug store, the name was changed to Berd Pharmacy. The stones for the building were quarried from Eva's Cherokee Nation allotment property east





*Berd Pharmacy, Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, ca. 1906. From Three Rivers Museum, Muskogee, Oklahoma.*



*Former Berd Pharmacy in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, August, 2009. The portal still reads "John C. Berd." Photograph taken by the author.*





*Portal of the former Berd Pharmacy, Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, August, 2009. Photograph taken by the author.*



*James Polk Carter, 1900. From The Tahlequah Arrow, July 14, 1900.*

of Fort Gibson.

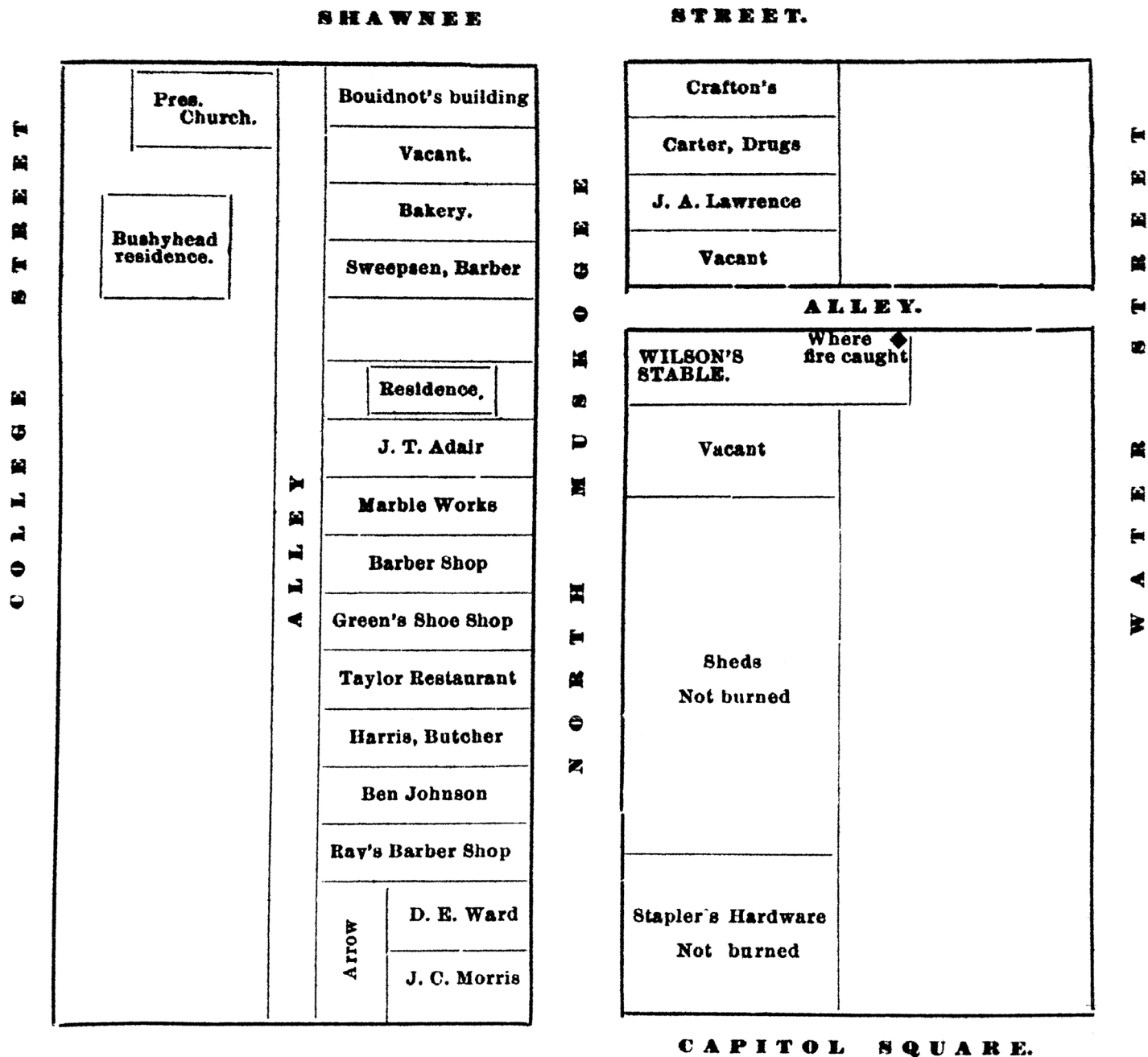
On January 17, 1905, John was issued pharmacist license number 290 by the newly organized Indian Territory Board of Pharmacy. The Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy gave John license number 1108 at statehood. John's son Harold received license number 3804 from the Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy.

Eva died October 19, 1921, and John on May 10, 1925. Both are buried in Citizens Cemetery, also known as Cherokee National Cemetery, at Fort Gibson. Their children are also buried there.

## **James Polk Carter**

Sometimes referred to as "Poke," James Polk Carter was born in Jackson County, Tennessee, on December 1, 1868. His father, James Calhoun Carter had been born there in 1847 and joined the twenty-eighth Tennessee Infantry on the side of the confederacy during the American Civil War. After the war, Poke's father returned to Jackson County





*Tahlequah business district burned in April, 1895. From Muskogee Phoenix, April 17, 1895.*

where he farmed and worked in a saw mill. Poke's mother Amy was also born in Tennessee in 1847.

In 1886, Poke's family moved to Tahlequah, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory. One of Poke's early jobs in pharmacy was as a drug clerk for Walter Noel Evans, who had established a drug store in town in 1882. He also learned about the retail business by working for the famous general merchandise establishment in town, J. W. Stapler & Son.

On September 18, 1894, Poke married Ettah "Carrie" Eiffert in Tahlequah. They took a wedding trip to St. Louis. She was a daughter of John Henry and Susan (Thompson) Eiffert of Fort Gibson and a member of the Cherokee Nation. Her Dawes enrollment number is 14361. Poke and Carrie had three children, Suramy "Sue", Larence, and James Polk, Jr. Larence died in 1899.



The wedding trip to St. Louis also involved the purchase of a drug stock. Poke and two partners, R. M. Murphy and N. Bitting, had started in the drug business together that fall by purchasing the Tahlequah Drug Company from Walter Evans, who moved to Claremore. In January of 1895, Poke bought out his partners and became sole owner of the store. A devastating fire in downtown Tahlequah in April of 1895 destroyed Poke's drug store along with many other business establishments. The loss of merchandise in the Tahlequah Drug Store was estimated as \$3,500. Poke was insured for \$1,850.

Poke soon brought in fresh merchandise for a new store and continued in the drug business later in 1895. Meanwhile, he became a member of the Indian Territory Pharmaceutical Association (ITPhA), which formed in Muskogee in May, a month after the Tahlequah fire. Under the circumstances, Poke was unable to attend the inaugural meeting of the ITPhA, but later became an active member of the organization. He was a member of the association's committee on "Papers and Queries" and elected to the ITPhA council for 1896-97.

In Tahlequah, Poke was a popular member of the Masonic Lodge, the Knights of Pythias, and the Odd Fellows. On July 10, 1900, he died as a result of ingestion of laudanum and morphine. His death was thought by some to have been a suicide, but his family said that he took the drugs because of a "severe fit of nervousness." His younger brother Caleb, who worked as a drug clerk in Poke's drug store, had died on March 16, 1897, from the same cause.

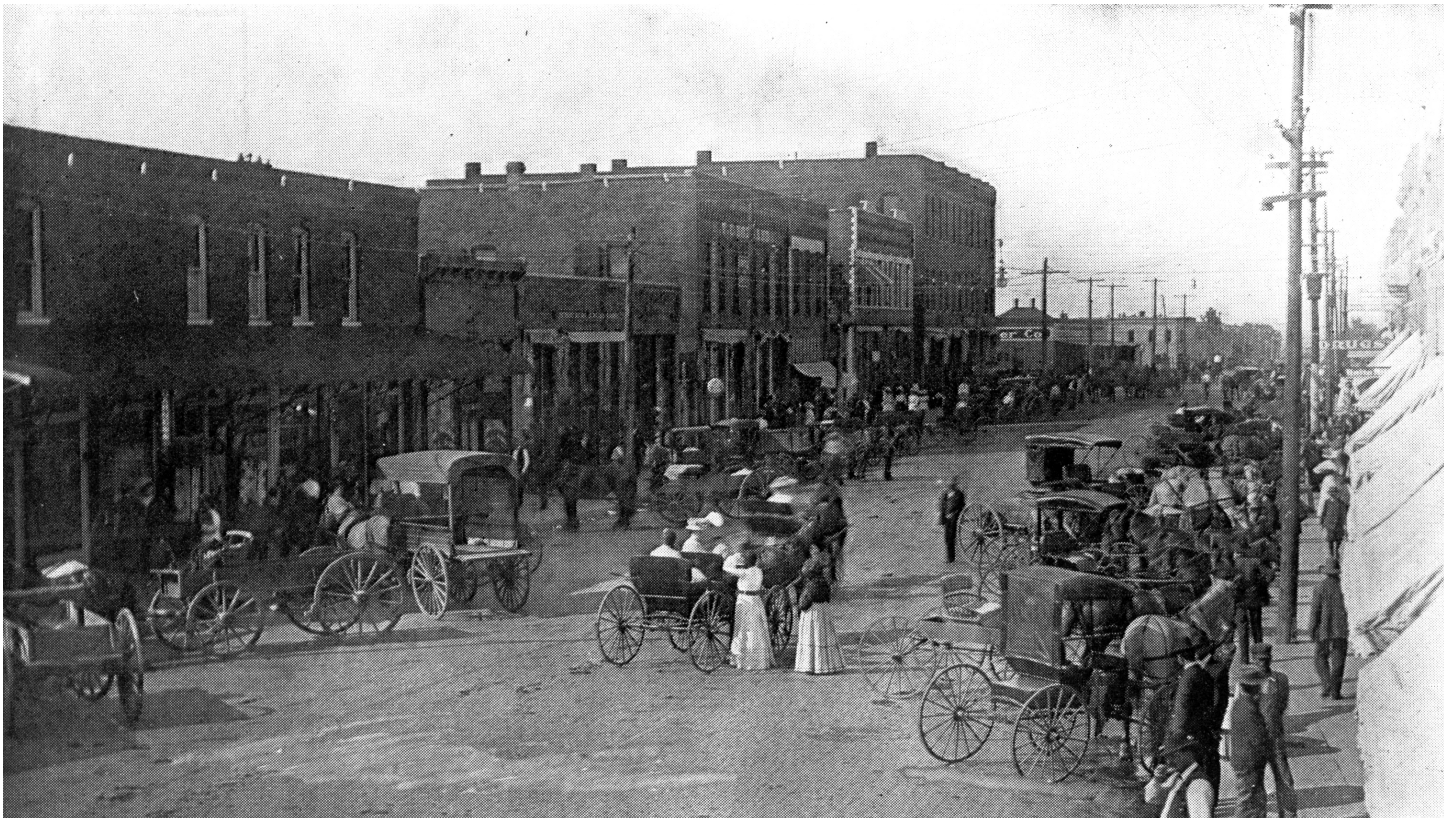
## Austin Worcester Foreman II

Austin was born on August 18, 1855, in Park Hill, Cherokee Nation. He was named for an older brother, Austin Worcester Foreman I, who was born on February 9, 1835, and died on January 10, 1855. They were both sons of Stephen and Sarah Watkins (Riley) Foreman, who had come to the Park Hill area in 1838 with many other members of the Cherokee Nation on the "Trail of Tears."



*Austin Worcester Foreman II in two eras of his life, ca. 1890 (left) and ca. 1900. From O'Beirne and O'Beirne, 1892, and Vinita Public Library.*





*Wilson Street in Vinita. A drug store is located down the street on the right. From the author's collection.*

Stephen Foreman, also known as Ootsalahnuhhi, was born on October 22, 1807, in Ol-you-gi-lo-gi, Floyd County, Georgia. He was a son of John Anthony Foreman, a trader of Scottish descent in the Cherokee Nation, Tennessee, and Elizabeth Wa-tee, a full blood member of the Cherokee Nation. Stephen attended mission schools in Georgia and, in the late 1820s, came under the tutelage of the renowned missionary Reverend Samuel Austin Worcester.

**Drugs** Are a necessity in every Household in the land.

**Where?** To procure them Fresh, with Safety and at a Fair Price is important.

**Foreman's** Pharmacy, formerly Patton & Co's., Meets all these Points to the Letter.

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**PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY FILLED.**

*Early advertisement by Foreman's Pharmacy after purchase of the drug store from W. C. Patton. From Indian Chieftain (Vinita), February 11, 1892.*



# The Joyous HOLIDAYS Are Upon Us!

What to Select as Gifts, Vexatious Questions Once,  
Are Quickly Answered at....

## ..Dr. A. W. Foreman's Pharmacy..

### A Few Suggestions:

Watches, Gold Filled,  
\$16 to \$25.  
Solid Gold Watches,  
\$25 to \$35.

Rings, Breastpins, at all prices.  
Clocks of every description.  
Jewelry of every grade and kind.  
14-Karat Opal Rings, finest ever  
brought here.

### Silver Knives, Forks Spoons and All Tableware.

High-Grade Table Cutlery and  
Carving Sets.  
Nut Picks and Crackers.  
Handsome Silver and Glass Berry  
Dishes.  
Syrup Pitchers, Etc.



### Beautiful Gifts These:

Celuloid and PLUSH  
Dressing Cases, at from  
\$1.25 to \$10.  
Albums; Handkerchief  
and Glove Cases.  
Handsome China and  
Glass Goods.  
Exquisite Rose Jars,  
Bohemian Glass Vases,  
Very Artistic Stationery.  
Bonbons, Perfumes &  
all Extracts and Toilet  
Articles.

### .....Dolls Innumerable for the Little Girls, Toys of Every Description.....

Dishes, Drums, Tool Chests, Wagons, Trunks, Furniture, Iron Toys, Etc.

### BEAUTIFUL LAMPS, ONYX TABLES, (Prices Cut Away Down) BOOKS, ETC.

Everything will be sold at uncommonly low prices and will make especial figures to Christmas Tree  
Committees. As heretofore, Drug Stock the Best in Vinita. Jewelry repairing solicited and guaranteed.

*Christmas advertisement by Foreman's Pharmacy. From Indian Chieftain (Vinita), December 9, 1897.*

With Worcester's guidance, he studied at Union Seminary near Farmville, Prince Edward County, Virginia, and the Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, Mercer County, New Jersey. In 1834, Stephen started as a Presbyterian minister with the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

After arriving at Park Hill in 1839, Stephen preached and taught school at several locations, including Dwight



# Back      Again

*Having purchased the Drug and Jewelry stock of Dr. A. P. Owens, I am back in the same old business at the same old stand and want the patronage of my friends. Both departments of my store will be kept in competent charge by expert men. I shall appreciate your business and will treat you right.*

**A. W. FOREMAN**

*Patton Block Illinois Avenue*

*Advertisement by Austin Foreman after buying back the drug and jewelry store from A. P. Owens. From The Vinita Leader, September 20, 1906.*

Mission and Fairfield Mission. He also worked with Worcester in translating various religious documents, including the Bible, into the Cherokee language. His reverence for Reverend Worcester led Stephen to name his last born son Austin Worcester II after the death of his first born son, Austin Worcester I.

Austin II moved with his family to Texas in the early 1860s, where they remained during the American Civil War. His mother died in Park Hill in 1861 before the move to Texas and his father remarried in 1873 after they moved back to Park Hill. Beginning in about 1868, Austin attended Cane Hill College (now University of the Ozarks in Clarksville) located at the time in Canehill, Washington County, Arkansas, about fifty miles east of Park Hill. He was among the first students to study there when the college started up again after its destruction during the war.

Following his studies at Cane Hill, Austin moved to Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky, where he attended the Louisville Medical College. In about 1875, he finished his medical studies and lived for a short time in Virginia.

Austin moved back to the Cherokee Nation in Indian Territory in the early months of 1876 to practice medicine, initially in the town of Claremore. By May of 1878, he moved his medical practice to the Cherokee Nation town of Vinita and established his office over the general store belonging to his brother, John Anthony Foreman. Except for brief periods of time in 1885 when he moved to the vicinity of Oowala and in 1891 when he established a farm near Kelso, both in the Cherokee Nation, Austin remained in Vinita.

# HOLIDAY \* HEADQUARTERS.

...A. W. FOREMAN...



Most  
Extensive

**Drug and Jewelry House in the Nation.  
High-Grade Jewelry, Superior Workmanship,**

**AND A GUARANTEE.**

**All Druggists' Specialties, Stationery.**

**Plush and Fancy Glass Goods, Books and Toys.**

*Austin Foreman advertising emphasizing his stock of jewelry. From Indian Chieftain (Vinita), December 3, 1896.*

In January of 1892, Austin purchased the drug store that was operated by William Columbus Patton as part of his larger general merchandise firm. From that point, Austin's practice of medicine became his secondary profession. To help in the operation of his drug store in Vinita, Austin brought in a number of pharmacists from other parts of Indian Territory, including William F. Carter, William Orange Strother, Wallace Grant Highwood, and Lewis L. Moore. This practice allowed him to take time out from the pharmacy to practice medicine and to take postgraduate courses. At the same time, it gave inexperienced pharmacists a chance to gain expertise of value to them in future practice. The Foreman Pharmacy in Vinita was an important training point for many pharmacists who later became prominent in the territory and in the state of Oklahoma.

In 1896, the Foreman Pharmacy installed a new soda fountain that would be the only one in Vinita for a few years afterward. Soon after he purchased the drug store from Patton, Austin started a jewelry department which he took special care in developing and promoting on special occasions. Austin's pharmacy typically carried a large line of toys and gifts during the Christmas season. Christmas advertisements for the store were usually large and sometimes humorous.

On April 18, 1905, Austin was issued certificate number 557 by the Indian Territory Board of Pharmacy. The Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy gave him certificate number 1138 on May 15, 1908.

On January 13, 1880, Austin married Emily "Emma" Josephine Ridenour of Missouri. The only child of their own that lived into the twentieth century, Ermina Essie "Tot," was born in 1881. Tot married Richard Vance McSpadden and died in 1975 without having children of her own. Emily "Emma" died on January 23, 1899, and is buried along with Tot in Vinita's Fairview Cemetery. In January of the following year, Austin married Margaret Edith George and the couple had two children, George Austin, born April 19, 1901, and Margaret Edith, born September 2, 1904. The Cherokee Nation Dawes enrollment numbers for Austin, Tot, George, and Margaret (Cherokee Minor) are 7879, 7880, 7881, and 400, respectively.

In the spring of 1899, soon after Emma died, Austin sold his drug store to A. B. Nichols. Nichols later defaulted on the purchase and Austin retained control until he sold in May of 1905 to A. P. Owens. In September of 1906, Austin bought the store back from Owens. Even though he remained interested in selling the pharmacy, no buyers appeared and he kept the store until his death in a Springfield, Missouri, hospital on December 18, 1910. He is buried in Fairview Cemetery along with Emma and Tot. His estate was estimated at \$50,000, much of it being in farm land and Vinita city property.



## James Sterling McAllister

James was born in Walker County, Georgia, on February 22, 1866, to Wesley Matson and Margaret (Harris) McAllister. His father enlisted in the 39th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment on March 24, 1862, but spent almost two years as a confederate prisoner of war after being captured on May 16, 1863, at Baker's Creek, Mississippi. After being released on February 24, 1865, he returned to his home in Georgia to resume work as a Methodist minister.

In about 1868, Wesley moved the family to Greene County, near Springfield, Missouri, where Wesley continued his ministry with the Southwestern Missouri Conference. Wesley and Margaret had three children after moving to Missouri. The youngest, Charles T., was born in Greene County on April 20, 1875.

James was educated in Greene and Dade Counties in Missouri. He later attended Morrisville College in nearby Morrisville, Polk County, Missouri. After he moved to Tulsa, Creek Nation, Indian Territory, in the early 1890s, James attended Barnes Medical College in St. Louis, Missouri, where he graduated in 1896.

James established a medical practice as well as a drug store in Tulsa. The Tulsa drug store in 1893 was initially referred to as J. S. McAllister & Company. Later, he was a partner with Charles Lafayette Reeder in both the



*Sapulpa Hunting Club, 1894. James McAllister is standing third from the right. From Sapulpa Historical Society, Sapulpa, Oklahoma.*



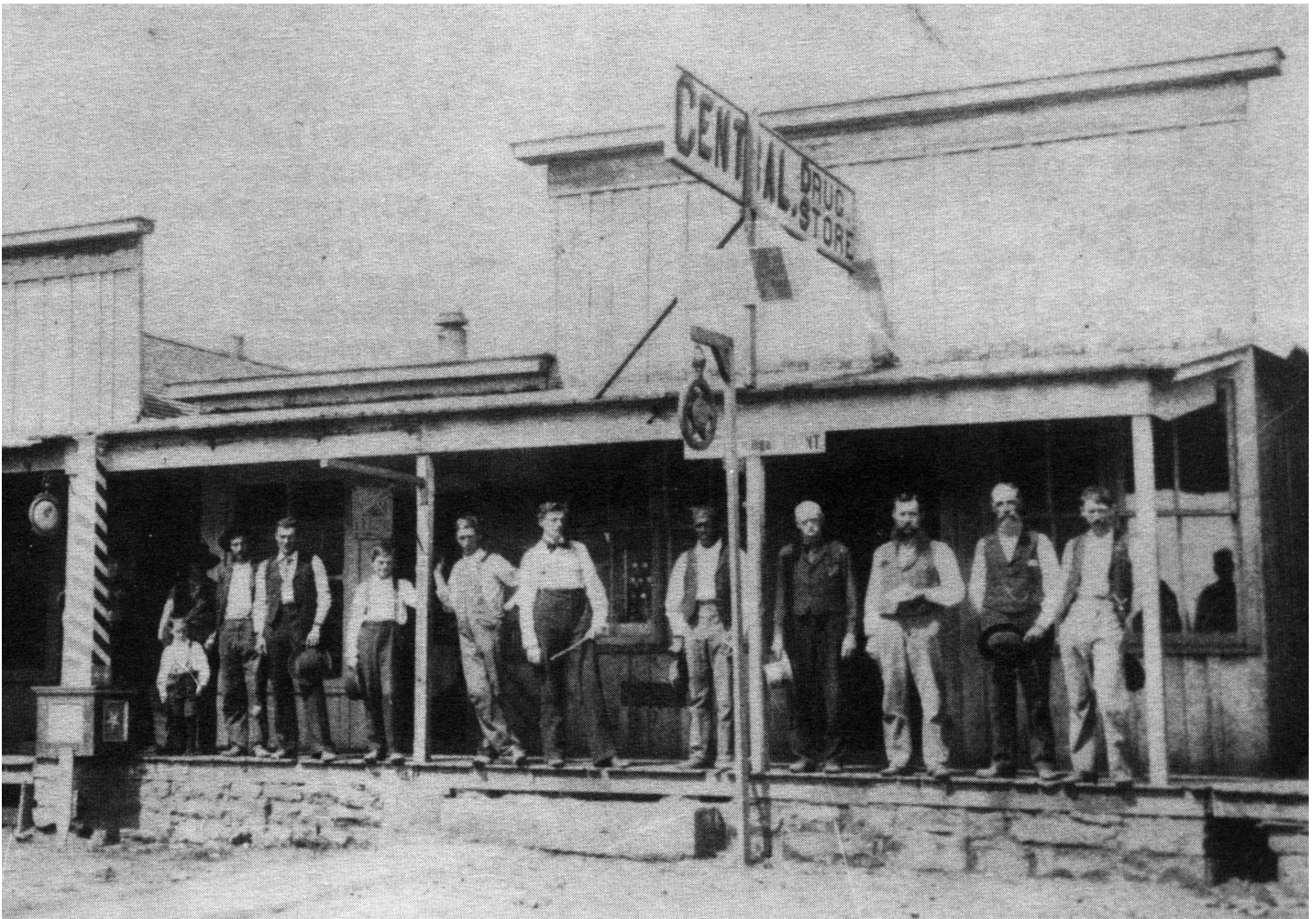


*View of interior of the Reeder-McAllister drug store in Tulsa. From the Beryl Ford Collection/Rotary Club of Tulsa.*



*Sapulpa Main Street view looking north with McAllister's office and drug store on left, January, 1895. From Sapulpa Historical Society, Sapulpa, Oklahoma.*





*Central Drug Store in Sapulpa, 1897. From Sapulpa Historical Society, Sapulpa, Oklahoma.*

medical practice and the drug store.

In 1894, James established a drug store in Sapulpa, Creek Nation, Indian Territory. Shortly thereafter, his brother Charles came to Sapulpa and managed the drug store while James devoted most of his time to the practice of medicine. Between 1898 and 1901, the drug store in Sapulpa was listed as being owned by C. T. McAllister or by the McAllister Brothers. By 1903, the McAllisters were partners with Louis Schmidt and, in 1912, the partnership purchased the Central Drug Store at a bankruptcy sale. Robert McIntosh became a partner after Schmidt retired and was sole proprietor by 1921. James continued his medical practice and Charles started an insurance business in Sapulpa after selling the drug store.

James married Christina Webber of Nevada, Vernon County, Missouri, in 1901. They had one child, Charles Wesley McAllister. He also had a stepdaughter by a previous marriage to Birdie France of Sapulpa. Charles married Stella Houser of Sapulpa on June 11, 1907. They had one child, Sterl McAllister.

James became a prominent physician in the Creek Nation, serving as president of the Sapulpa Board of Health and as a local physician for the Frisco railroad. He was one of the organizers and early members of the Masonic Lodges in Tulsa and Sapulpa. In 1899, he was elected mayor of Sapulpa. James was president of the Sapulpa Chamber of Commerce and of the Sapulpa Townsite Company in 1904. During World War I, he was on active duty in France and became a Captain in the Hospital Corps attached to the 32nd Division.

Charles became a member of the Indian Territory Pharmaceutical Association in 1899 and served as local sec-



retary for the organization. He was issued pharmacist certificate number 186 by the Indian Territory Board of Pharmacy on October 18, 1904. The Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy gave Charles certificate number 585 on February 5, 1908. James did not become licensed as a pharmacist in Indian Territory or in Oklahoma.

James (died May 17, 1925), Christina (died January 28, 1947), Charles (died March 14, 1959), and Stella (died May 9, 1972) McAllister are buried in Sapulpa's South Heights Cemetery.

## **Acknowledgements**

The author expresses appreciation for support to Eelia Henderscheid of San Diego, California; Chris Lair of the Tulsa City-County Library, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Linda Moore of the Three Rivers Museum, Muskogee, Oklahoma; Wanda Norton of the Eastern Trails Museum and the Vinita Public Library, Vinita, Oklahoma; Doris R. Yocham, Museum Director of the Sapulpa Historical Society, Sapulpa, Oklahoma; and the Fort Gibson Genealogical Society, Fort Gibson, Oklahoma; . Also, thanks to Jan Davis, Carol Williams, Linda Raulston, Linda Colbert, and Colleen Greene, professionals in the Archives and Records Division at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries (ODL) in Oklahoma City, for their help.

## **Bibliographic**

Information and images for these biographies were collected from many sources, including files at the Oklahoma Pharmacists Association (OPhA) office; Barry family member Eelia Henderscheid of San Diego, California; the Beryl Ford Collection/Rotary Club of Tulsa, Oklahoma; Three Rivers Museum of Muskogee, Oklahoma; Eastern Trails Museum and Vinita Public Library of Vinita, Oklahoma; Sapulpa Historical Society of Sapulpa, Oklahoma; Fort Gibson Genealogical Society of Fort Gibson, Oklahoma; various issues of Southern Pharmaceutical Journal, The Disseminator, The National Druggist, and Meyer Brothers Druggist; and newspapers from Oklahoma City, Fort Gibson, McAlester, Muskogee, Sapulpa, Tahlequah, Tulsa, and Vinita, Oklahoma. A profile for Austin Worcester Foreman II was found in H. F. O'Beirne and E. S. O'Beirne, "The Indian Territory: Its Chiefs, Legislators and Leading Men" (St. Louis, C. B. Woodward Company, 1892): 304-305. Additional biographical information for the Foreman family was found in Joseph B. Thoburn, "A Standard History of Oklahoma," Volume 3 (Chicago, The American Historical Society, 1916): 1264-1266; Emmet Starr, "History of the Cherokee Indians and Their Legends and Folk Lore" (Oklahoma City, The Warden Company, 1921): 365; and The Final Rolls of the Citizens and Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes in Indian Territory of the Dawes Commission, Census Card Number 3199, page 287. The ERA and Hayes Druggists directories have been used as aids to trace pharmacy locations in Oklahoma and United States census records to trace family locations and data. Especially beneficial for biographical information have been pharmacist applications for licensure as well as records of the Oklahoma Territory, Indian Territory, and Oklahoma State Boards of Pharmacy located in the Archives and Records Division of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries (ODL).